

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of populating a contact list on a portable device, the method comprising:

extracting contact information from a number of messages stored in a memory in the portable device; and

5 entering the extracted contact information into a contact list maintained by a program operating on the portable device.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein extracting contact information includes monitoring incoming messages and retrieving contact information from 10 incoming messages.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein contact information includes a simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP) email address.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein extracting contact information includes scanning a message database and retrieving contact information from 15 messages contained in the database.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the scanning occurs since a certain time.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the certain time is the time of the last scanning.

20 7. The method of claim 1, wherein entering the extracted contact information into a contact list maintained by a program operating on the portable device includes providing a graphical user interface (GUI) with contact information configured to receive a selection from a user of the portable device.

25 8. The method of claim 1, wherein entering the extracted contact information into a contact list maintained by a program operating on the portable device includes automatically entering in the contact list only contact information not already contained in the contact list.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising filtering contact information to include or exclude from the contact list contact information from emails received from certain domains.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising filtering contact information to include or exclude from the contact list contact information from retrieved addresses from certain domains.

11. The method of claim 1, further comprising filtering contact information to include in the contact list only email sender information.

12. In a portable device, a user interface configured to facilitate the populating of a contact list, the user interface comprising:

means for extracting contact information from a number of messages stored in a memory in the portable device;

means for presenting the extracted contact information on the portable device;

means for receiving a number of selections of contact to be stored in the contact list; and

means for entering the selected contact information into a contact list maintained by a program operating on the portable device.

13. The user interface of claim 12, wherein means for presenting the extracted contact information on the portable device includes means for providing a checklist of extracted contact information.

14. The user interface of claim 12, wherein means for presenting the extracted contact information on the portable device includes a display on a wireless application protocol (WAP) phone.

15. The user interface of claim 12, wherein means for entering the selected contact information into a contact list maintained by a program operating on the portable device includes means for automatically entering in the contact list only contact information not already contained in the contact list.

16. A processing system comprising:

a central processing unit (CPU); and

a storage device coupled to a processor and having stored there

information for configuring the CPU to:

5 extract contact information from a number of messages stored
in a memory in the portable device; and

enter the extracted contact information into a contact list
maintained by a program operating on the portable device.

10 17. The system of claim 16, wherein the CPU is further configured to
monitor incoming messages and retrieve contact information from incoming
messages.

15 18. The system of claim 16, wherein the CPU is further configured to
scan a message database and retrieve contact information from messages contained
in the database.

19. The system of claim 15, wherein the CPU is further configured to
provide a graphical user interface (GUI) with contact information configured to
receive a selection from a user of the portable device..

20 20. The system of claim 15, wherein the CPU is further configured to
automatically enter into the contact list only contact information not already
contained in the contact list.

21. A system for populating a contact list on a portable device, the
system comprising:

means for extracting contact information from a number of messages
25 stored in a memory in the portable device; and

means for entering the extracted contact information into a contact list
maintained by a program operating on the portable device.